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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	09/900,503	
			Filing Date	July 6, 2001	
			Confirmation Number	5237	
			First Named Inventor	Hu et al.	
			Group Art Unit	3732	
Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith				
Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON				
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		B1	473,451		French	6/15/14		
		B2	168,216		Great Britian	9/1/21		
		B3	GB 2 267 827		United Kingdom	12/22/93		
		B4	WO 97/32514 A2		PCT	9/12/97		
		B5	EP 0 803 228 A1		EP	10/29/97		
		B6	WO 97/40752		PCT	11/6/97		
		B7	WO 98/27869		PCT	7/2/98		
		B8	WO 99/09892		PCT	3/4/99		
		B9	WO 99/16367		PCT	4/8/99		
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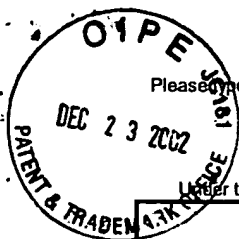
OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	B1	Ancalmo, N. and J.L. Ochsner: "A Modified Sternal Retractor," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 21 (1976) 174	
	B2	Angelini, G.D., M.D. et al., "A Fiber-Optic Retractor for Harvesting the Internal Mammary Artery," Ann. Thorac. Surg. (1990; 50:314-5)	
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

3-10-03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Sheet	2	of	2

B3	Antinori, C. et al., "A Method of Retraction During Reoperative Coronary Operations Using the Favaloro Retractor," The Society of Thoracic Surgeons: 1989	
B4	Beg, R.A.H. Naraghypour, E.B. Kay and P. Rullo, "Internal Mammary Retractor," Ann Thorac. Surg. 39 (1985) 286-287	
B5	Campalani, G., M.D., et al., "A New Self-Retaining Internal Mammary Artery Retractor," J. Cardiovas. Surg. 28, 1987	
B6	Chaux, A. and C. Blanche, "A New Concept in Sternal Retraction: Applications for Internal Mammary Artery Dissection and Valve Replacement," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 42 (1986) 473-474	
B7	Delacroix-Chevalier Surgical Instruments, IMA Saving Packages Brouchure	
B8	Guzman, F. M.D., "Transient Radial Nerve Injury Related to the Use of A Self Retraining Retractor for Internal Mammary Artery Dissection," J. Cardiovasc Surg. 30, 1989, pgs. 1015-16	
B9	Itoh, Toshiaki, M.D., et al., "New Modification of a Mammary Artery Retractor," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 9 (1994):57:1670-1	
B10	McKeown, P.P. et al., "A Modified Sternal Retractor for Exposure of the Internal Mammary Artery," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 32 (1981) 619	
B11	Phillips, Steven J., M.D. et al., "A Versatile Retractor for Use in Harvesting the Internal Mammary Artery and Performing Standard Cardiac Operations," J. Thorac. Cardiovasc. Surg. (1989: 97:633-5)	
B12	Pilling Surgical Instruments, A Rusch International Company Brochure	
B13	Pittman, John, M.D., et al., "Improved Visualization of the Internal Mammary Artery with a New Retractor System," Ann. Thorac. Surg., 1989; 48:869-70	
B14	Roux, D., M.D. et al., "Internal Mammary Artery Dissection: A Three-dimensional Sternal Retractor," J. Cardiovasc. Surg. 1989; 30:996-7	
B15	USSC Cardiovascular Thora-Lift™, United States Surgical Corporation, Norwalk, Connecticut, Product Brochure	
B16	Vincent, J.G., "A Compact Single Post Internal Mammary Artery Dissection Retractor," Eur. J. Cardio-Thor. Surg. 3(1989) 276-277	
B17	Provisional Application No. 60/117,333 filed January 24, 1999.	

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